खोलने के लिए दी गई अनुमति को इस आधार पर अभिखंडित कर दिया है कि आंध्र प्रदेश शैक्षिक संस्थाएं (केपिटेशन फीस का विनियमन और प्रतिबंधन) (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 1992 असंवैधानिक है और यह कि धनाढ्यता अथवा अदायगी करने की क्षमता को सीटें आरक्षित करने के लिए वैध नहीं समझा जा सकता ।

Charging of capitation fees from medical students

1401. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the flourishing practice of charging capitation fees exorbitant from the students seeking admission to Degree and Diploma courses such as MBBS, BAMS, BDS by the private colleges/institutes in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and other States since long;

(b) whether permission to private parties for opening such colleges by the State Governments without looking into viability aspect, is a gross violation of law as decided by High Courts/Supreme Court in their recent judgements;

(c) what is the estimated number of students admitted on capitation fees in private Colleges/Institutes in the above discipline State-wise; and

(d) details of action taken/proposed to be taken to deal with the phenomena of capitation fees on uniform basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) to (d) As per information provided by the Medical Council of India, some private medical colleges in some States are charging capitation fee or enhanced fees for admission to medical colleges.

The Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court is already seized of the matter regarding charging of capitation fee. As regards establishment of medical and dental colleges without proper infrastructure as prescribed by the respective professional Councils, the President has promulgated two Ordinances on 27-8-92 which are being replaced by Bills already introduced during the current session of Parliament. The Ordinances, inter-alia, provide for prior approval of Central Government before establishment of new medical and dental colleges.

Information regarding the number of students admitted on capitation fees in various colleges are not complied by the Government.

Setting up of modern medical institute in West Bengal on the pattern of AIIMS

1402. SHRI ASHIS SEN :
SHRIMATI SARALA MAHESHWARI :
SHRI MD. SALIM :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up a modern medical institute in West Bengal on the pattern of AIIMS and whether Government of West Bengal Offered land for such institute there;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that such an institute would help the people of Eastern and North-Eastern States; and

(d) the details of the progress made so far in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) to (d) The Government of West Bengal had requested the Central Government for provision of funds for the establishment of a postgraduate medical institute in or around Calcutta and that the State Govt. would provide all the infrastructural facilities like land etc. On the basis similar requests received from various other States, a Committee was appointed in August, 1990, to make recommendation on such proposals. The Committee had made recommenda-

tions for upgradation of five medical colleges in different Sates which did not include West Bengal. The Govt. after careful consideration of all aspects of the matter, including the availability of resources, the likely impact of such a scheme and constitutional responsibility of the Central Government in this regard, have decided not to include this scheme in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Inclusion of nickel in the list of toxic metals

1403. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether nickel is included in the list of toxic metals; if not the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government propose to amend the Prevention of Food Adulteraiton Act for this purpose; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA : (a) to (c) Nickle has not been classified as a poisonous metal under Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, 1955.

The entire issue of occurrence of nickle in food vis-a-vis laying down its limit has been recently examined by the experts, who have recommended that the Indian Council for Medical Research should evaluate the scientific evidence of toxicity of nickel when consumed orally and advise the Government on the need for setting standard for nickel content in food articles. Final view on the matter would be taken after considering the report of ICMR.

Legislation to ban tobacco products in public places

1404. DR. ABRAR AHMED :
SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to enact any comprehensive legislation to ban cigarette smoking in public places and advertisements of all tobacco related products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the proposed comprehensive legislation, it is intended *inter-alia* to :

(i) impose a ban on the sale of tobacco or tobacco products within a distance of 100 metres from schools, educational institutions, hospitals and medical institutions.

(ii) prohibit smoking in certain selected public places like hospitals, educational institutions, conference rooms, domestic air flights, A/C Chair Cars/sleeper coaches, suburban trains, public transport etc.

(iii) impose a complete ban on all forms of advertisements in respect of tobacco related products after studying the implications vis-a-vis the experience of other countries of the world in this regard.

(iv) prescribe statutory warning on all packages of tobacco and tobacco products in appropriate forms, size and language to make them prominent and effective.

(c) Does not arise.

Total bed strength in Government Hospitals

1405. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total bed strength in Government hospitals (both State and Union Government); and

(b) what are the State-wise details in both urban and rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA) : (a) and (b) As on 1-1-91, there are a total number of